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PROCEEDINGS OF THE STATISTICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

Third Ordinary Meeting. Monday, 20th January, 1840.

HENRY HALLAM, Esq., F.R.S., Treasurer, in the Chair.

In pursuance of notice given at the last meeting, the following distinguished foreigners were elected honorary members :—M. Ducpetiaux, Brussels; M. Villermé, Paris; M. Meidinger, Frankfort; Signor Gioja, Florence; and M. Mallet, Geneva.

The following gentlemen were elected :—Thomas Robinson, Esq., Augustus Square, Regent's Park; John Southerden Burn, Esq., Registration Commission; Samuel Stocks, Esq., Heaton Norris, Manchester; James Annesley, Esq., Albany, Piccadilly.

The following gentlemen were proposed as candidates for admission into the Society :—William Weir, Esq.; Edward Thomas, Esq.; Robert Baker, Esq., Superintendent of Factories, Leeds.

A paper was read "On the Historical, Social, Moral, and Religious Statistics of the Parish of St. George the Martyr, Southwark." By the Rev. George Weight, F.S.S. (See p. 50.)

Mr. Rowland Hill afterwards offered some statements respecting the results of the operation of the recent changes in the Post-office system, and explained several points which have been viewed as objections to its adoption.

Fourth Ordinary Meeting. Monday, 17th February, 1840.

JAMES HEYWOOD, Esq., Vice-President, F.R.S., in the Chair.

The report of the auditors of the Society's accounts for 1839, with the balance sheet of receipts and expenditure, were read. These documents are appended to the Annual Report.

The following gentlemen were elected :—William Weir, Esq., Brompton; Edward Thomas, Esq., Leicester Place; Robert Baker, Esq., Superintendent of Factories, Leeds.

The first paper read was "On the System and Extent of Pauper Relief in Scotland, prepared from official and other documents." By W. R. Deverell, Esq., Assistant-Secretary.

This paper consisted of a series of statements relating to the Scottish system of provision for the poor; the modes of collecting the requisite funds; the conditions observed in affording relief; the comparative state of the poor in Scotland, and the rates of expenditure for each individual on the whole population, with some statements of the rates of expenditure for the poor in other countries.

A second paper was then read "On the Popular Penny Literature of the Day." By C. R. Weld, Esq.

With a view of contributing to the collection of facts illustrative of the moral and intellectual condition of the working classes, copies of all the cheap periodicals published in the metropolis were presented to the Society, with a classified arrangement of the whole, exhibiting in a tabular form the title of each, the price, the length of time it has been

in circulation, and the number of copies circulated, as stated by the publishers.

These two papers may be referred to in the library of the Society.

General Anniversary Meeting, 16th March, 1840.

The Right Honourable STURGES BOURNE, F.R.S., Vice-President, in the Chair.

The Annual Report of the Council for the session 1839-40 and the auditor's report, with the Balance Sheet, were read, and adopted. (See p. 1, for the Report, and for the Balance Sheet, see p. 12.)

On the motion of Woronzow Greig, Esq., seconded by Henry Hallam, Esq., the following resolutions were carried with unanimous applause:—

That His Royal Highness Prince Albert of Saxe Coburg and Gotha be requested to honour the Statistical Society of London by accepting the appointment of Patron.

That the following address be agreed to:—

“The Statistical Society of London, deeply impressed with respect for your Royal Highness's character and station, and believing that the objects of their pursuit cannot be indifferent to one occupying the eminence on which you stand, humbly request that your Royal Highness will permit your name to be put at the head of their Society as its Patron.

“Placed by Providence so near the throne of these realms, your Royal Highness will doubtless conceive the condition of the various classes of the community, the subjects of that throne, to be a study most worthy of your attention; and though the labours of the Statistical Society, scarce yet in its sixth year, have not hitherto made very great progress, still this is its task, to acquire the knowledge of facts connected with the condition of the people of all nations, to arrange and utilise those facts, and, studiously abstaining from what are commonly called politics, to provide materials for the politician, the economist, and the statesman.”

That the Chairman be requested to sign the foregoing address on behalf of the Society, and to transmit the same through the proper channel to His Royal Highness Prince Albert of Saxe Coburg and Gotha.

Lieut.-Col. Pringle Taylor and Mr. Rawson were appointed scrutineers of the ballot for the Council, and Lieut.-Col. Taylor and Dr. Guy for the Officers, when those gentlemen having reported the result of the votes, it was announced from the chair that the following members were duly elected as council and officers:—

COUNCIL.

Charles Babbage, Esq., F.R.S.
 Sir John Boileau, Bart.
 Right Hon. W. Sturges Bourne, F.R.S.
 John Bowring, Esq., LL.D.
 John Clendinning, Esq., M.D.
 Rev. E. W. Edgell.
 William Farr, Esq.
 Right Hon. Earl Fitzwilliam, F.R.S.
 Joseph Fletcher, Esq.
 Francis H. Goldsmid, Esq.
 Woronzow Greig, Esq., F.R.S.
 Henry Hallam, Esq., F.R.S.
 James Heywood, Esq., F.R.S.
 James P. Kay, Esq., M.D.
 Sir Charles Lemon, Bart., F.R.S.
 George C. Lewis, Esq.

Nathaniel Lister, Esq., M.D.
 Right Hon. the Earl Lovelace.
 Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie.
 Herman Merivale, Esq.
 The Lord Bishop of Norwich.
 William Smith O'Brien, Esq., M.P.
 Sir Woodbine Parish, K.C.H., F.R.S.
 G. R. Porter, Esq., F.R.S.
 Rawson W. Rawson, Esq.
 Lord Viscount Sandon, M.P.
 R. A. Slaney, Esq., M.P.
 Lieut.-Col. Sykes, F.R.S.
 Thomas Tooke, Esq., F.R.S.
 Major M. A. Tulloch.
 George William Wood, Esq., M.P.

OFFICERS.

President—Lord Viscount Sandon, M.P.

Treasurer—Henry Hallam, Esq., F.R.S.

Honorary Secretaries—Dr. Clendinning, Joseph Fletcher, Esq.,
 Rawson W. Rawson, Esq.

The following motion was made by H. Love, Esq., and seconded by James Wishaw, Esq. :—

“That it is expedient to discontinue the Journal;” which, after a debate, being supported by only one other member, was put to the vote and negatived.

On the motion of Dr. Clendinning, seconded by James Wishaw, Esq., it was resolved—

That in the third clause of the 17th rule, the words “three weeks” be substituted for “fourteen days,” and at the conclusion of the same clause the following words be inserted :—“The Council shall give fourteen days’ notice to every Fellow, of all questions of which such notice shall have been given to them.”

The thanks of the Society were voted to the Chairman and the meeting adjourned.

Fifth Ordinary Meeting. Monday, 16th March, 1840.

Viscount SANDON, M.P., President, in the Chair.

The following gentlemen were proposed as candidates for admission into the Society :—William Ratray, Esq., King William Street; James Luke, Esq., Belfast; Walter Ruding Deverell, Esq., James Street, Buckingham Gate.

The first paper read, was a Report of a Committee of the Society appointed to inquire into the Moral and Physical Condition of the Working Classes in the Parishes of St. John and St. Margaret, Westminster. (See p. 14.)

A second paper was then read, “On the Effect of the New Postage Arrangements upon the Number of Letters.” By Rowland Hill, Esq. (See p. 102.)